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Construction of a causeway across the Thambaraparni.

* 263 *Q.*—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage of the proposal to connect Melapalayam and Tirunelveli town across the river Thambaraparni by a causeway (thambothi); and

(*b*) when the work will be commenced?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" (*a*) There is no proposal at present to construct a causeway across the river Thambaraparni to connect Tirunelveli and Melapalayam.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider the construction of the causeway to avoid inconvenience to the important municipalities, namely, Melapalayam and Tirunelveli, and whether any representations have been received by them for the construction of the causeway? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" The District Board has made some representations. The District Board has been asked to renew its application next year."

SRI S. SOMAYAJULU:—" Sir, since the municipalities of Palamcottah, Melapalayam, and Tirunelveli town and also the Tirunelveli District Board have passed resolutions regarding the urgent necessity for the construction of the causeway, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to make arrangements to take up this causeway for construction immediately? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" Many rivers have to be bridged, and all bridges and causeways will be taken up in a certain order."

Relief measures in the upland areas of Krishna district.

* 264 *Q.*—SRI V. RAMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the ameliorative measures, if any, taken by the Government for the relief of scarcity and distress prevailing in the upland areas of Krishna district owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" The rains in October 1952 have helped to a great extent the upland taluks of Krishna district. These rains have been beneficial to the standing crops of cholam and groundnut and has helped the preparation of lands for transplantation of chillies and Virginia tobacco. To provide work to the unemployed labourers the President, District Board, has been requested to take up the formation of two roads in Nandigama taluk, two roads in Tiruvur taluk and one in Nuzvid taluk for which estimates have been sanctioned already. The conditions are being closely watched and any further measures of relief will be undertaken if found necessary."

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SRI V. RAMA RAO :—" ఈశాన్య ఋతుపవనాలు రానందున నవంబరు నుండి వర్షాలు లేక ఆ ప్రాంతంలోని చెరువులు నిండక వరిసాగు జరుగలేదని జొన్న పైర్లు చాలాచోట్ల చెడిపోయినా యని ప్రభుత్వంవారికి ఏమైనా రిపోర్టులు అందినవా?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I have not yet received any report."

SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMY :—" కరువు పనులుగా కొన్ని రోడ్లు వేయవలసినదని జిల్లాబోర్డు ప్రెసిడెంటును ప్రభుత్వం కోరిందా ? అయినట్లయితే ఆ request ను జిల్లా బోర్డు అధ్యక్షులు ఎంతవరకు పాలించారో తెలియజేస్తారా ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" If it is found necessary, instructions will be given that the works be taken up."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Sir, how much money is being spent on relief in this area? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Notice."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM:—" జిల్లా బోర్డు అధ్యక్షుని request చేశామని చెప్పారు. అయితే జిల్లా బోర్డువారు ఎన్ని పనులు చేశారో తెలియజేస్తారా ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Even that information is not available with me now."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" ఈ ప్రాంతం లోని ప్రజలకు ఆహారధాన్యాలు సరసమైన ధరలకు లభ్యమగుటకుగాను ఎన్ని fair price shops తెరువబడ్డాయి ? ఈనాడు ఆహారధాన్యాల ధరలు ఏ స్థాయిలో ఉన్నాయి ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is a question relating to fair price shops, and it should be put to the Hon. the Minister for Food."

Alleged corruption in the Public Works Department.

* 265 *Q.*—SRI G. C. KONDAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government are trying to catch hold of bribe takers in the Public Works Department and, if so, how many cases have been caught so far and what is the nature of the offence in each?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" From January 1951 to September 1952 five officers of the Public Works Department have been punished after due enquiry into allegations of corruption made against them. In two cases, the offence related to acceptance of illegal gratification from contractors, in two cases the offence related to acceptance of illegal gratification for providing water facilities for irrigation of fields and in one case the offence related to the preparation of false muster rolls. Investigation or enquiry in eight other cases is in progress."